Monday, November 24, 2008 ★ 15 sections / Vol. 23 / No. 350 P18 website: www.inquirer.net



PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER
BALANCED NEWS, FEARLESS VIEWS

ANOTHER STORY TO TELL Surrounded by pine trees, Camp John Hay's historic Bell Amphitheater is the venue of the INQUIRER's Read Along session in Baguio City with actress Angel Aquino as guest storyteller to 70 schoolchildren. For the first time, the INQUIRER held simultaneous story readings in the cities of Baguio, Naga, Tabay and Davao on Saturday. (More photos in Across the Nation, Page A20.)

De Venecia confirms ₱500,000 Palace bribe

Says cash for 'weak' impeach complaint

By Julie Lobog-Javellana

HE STILL HAS THE P500,000 from Malacañang in its original paper bag.

Pangasinan Rep. Jose de Venecia told the INQUIRER that he, along with some other congressmen and local officials, was given the alleged bribe on Oct. 11, 2007, to support a "sham" impeachment complaint to protect President Macapagal-Arroyo from a stronger suit.

On the same day he received the payoff, the then Speaker De Venecia said Ms Arroyo pressured him three times during a meeting in her Malacañang office to endorse the "weak" impeachment complaint filed by lawyer Roel Pulido.

De Venecia said the P500,000 was brought to his office in the House of Representatives by a staff member of the Presidential Legislative Liaison Office on the afternoon of Oct. 11 when the

DE VENECIA A6

Apec states vow to avoid protectionism



SUMMIT SIDESHOW Activists lie on the street in protest against the Apec meet. Their banner reads "Apec is hunger and unemployment. Bush go home." AP FOTO

LIMA, PERU—LEADERS WHO oversee half the world's economy pledged on Saturday to avoid protectionism but shied away from any new proposals on the financial crisis because of somebody who wasn't there: US President-elect Barack Obama.

The 21 leaders endorsed last weekend's agreement by major world economies to resist domestic pressures to protect industries, while ensuring that small and medium-sized companies have enough credit to stay afloat.

"We strongly support the Washington Declaration and will refrain within the next 12 months from raising new barriers to investment or to trade in goods and services (and from) imposing new export restrictions," leaders of the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (Apec) forum said in a joint declaration.

They also pledged to reach agreement next month on the outlines of a World Trade Organization pact that collapsed in July after seven years of negotiations. Concern over the global financial crisis injected new urgency into the so-called Doha round of trade talks.

Despite calls by all sides for a trade deal, disputes between the United States, the European Union, China, India and other key players have repeatedly wrecked hopes for a breakthrough during the last seven years of negotiations and it is not clear what concessions they are prepared to make now.

The leaders called for greater Apec participation in the International Monetary Fund (IMF)

APEC STATES A4

Condoleezza praises Gloria: You are America's best friend

By Michael Lim Ubac

LIMA, PERU (VIA PLDT)—"YOU ARE THE US' BEST friend," US Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice told President Macapagal-Arroyo at their bilateral meeting on the sidelines of the leaders' meeting of the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (Apec) here.

Ms Arroyo promptly returned the favor by thanking the United States for its military support for the Philippines in the fight against militants in Mindanao allied with Osama bin Laden.

"We broke the back of terrorism in southern Philippines because of our partnership," the President said.

Rice retorted that the United States had a "very good partnership" with the Philippines and "we would like to continue to be your strong partner."

Protocol and security measures were breached

CONDOLEEZZA A4



BILATERAL TALKS President Arroyo talks with US Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice for 15 minutes.

Joe de V lying, says Mike A on ZTE rap

By Nancy C. Carvajal

FIRST GENTLEMAN JOSE Miguel "Mike" Arroyo yesterday called former Speaker Jose de Venecia Jr. "a liar" for claiming in a forthcoming book that he had suggested a formula that led to the awarding of the $329-million National Broadband Network (NBN) project to China's ZTE Corp.

"I never suggested anything, that JDV is a liar and you can tell him that to his face," the husband of President Macapagal-Arroyo told reporters in a mix of English and Filipino at the lobby of St. Luke's Medical Center in Quezon City yesterday afternoon.

Arroyo was leaving the hospital after an overnight confinement for treatment of diarrhea he suffered while on a flight to Peru with the President on Friday night en route to the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation summit, prompting an emergency medical stop in Osaka, Japan, and his return to Manila.

He was flanked by his sons—Pampanga Rep. Juan Miguel "Mikey" Arroyo and Camarines Sur Rep. Dato Arroyo.

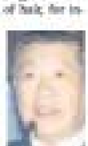
JOE DE V A17

Expert sees 'real' world of forensics

By Fe Zamora

HE IS KNOWN FOR SOLVING A murder case even without a body, and for finding the tiniest clues—a strand of hair, for instance—that would pin down a suspect at examine the crime scene.

Because of his unusual eye and perseverance in pursuing a case to its logical conclusion, Dr. Henry Lee has inspired the TV series CSI (Crime Scene Investigation) and his own TV show (Trace Evidence: The Case Files of Dr. Henry Lee), which, in turn, popularized forensic medicine and made "DNA analysis" and "cold cases" household terms.



HENRY LEE World-renowned forensic expert inspired the popular TV series "CSI."

EXPERT A17

FG cleared: Diarrhea, not heart attack

By Nancy C. Carvajal

NO, IT WASN'T A HEART attack. It was more like a case of "infectious diarrhea."

And the doctor's advice? When you fly, eat something light, not anything hard to digest.

With that, doctors yesterday discharged First Gentleman Jose Miguel "Mike" Arroyo from St. Luke's Medical Center in Quezon City, where he had been confined for a day.

"I'm OK. Doctors have cleared me and I can go home already," a smiling Arroyo told reporters at the hospital lobby.

FG CLEARED A6

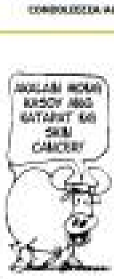
Ex-barber's cream fights warts, moles, even skin cancer

By Mike Morales

DIOWART, DIDMOLE AND now—de-cancer.

By reformulating his amazing cream that gets rid of warts and moles without surgery, Rolando dela Cruz, 71, came up with DeBCC that combats skin cancer.

EX-BARBER'S A17



Charge of Arroyo Brigade into the jaws of mayhem

By Amando Doronila

ANALYSIS

IN LESS THAN A DECADE OF ITS ratification, the 1987 Constitution encountered in 1997 the first serious proposal to amend it.

That ill-fated proposal sought to lift the constitutional term limits of elected officials through the method of "people's initiative" called Pirma (People's Initiative for Reform, Modernization and Action). It sought to allow then President Fidel Ramos to seek reelection in 1998.

The Supreme Court, by a 8-6 vote with three abstentions, effectively denied the Pirma petition pushed by the political machine of Ramos. It was hailed as a "triumph for democ-

CHARGE A18

Second FrontPage



SUPERLOTTO 6/49

P91,589,781.20

Palace: No lifting of term limits

Leading Charter change proponent joins effort to block Con-ass

MALACAÑANG YESTERDAY SAID IT WOULD block any efforts to lift term limits on elected officials, including the President, in the Constitution as oppositionists began organizing against a new attempt by Congress to amend the Charter.

Bush looks back in goodbye from Peru

[illegible]

Apec states vow to avoid protectionism

[illegible]

Pressure at home

[illegible]

Obama to review pacts

[illegible]

Financial sector reform

[illegible]



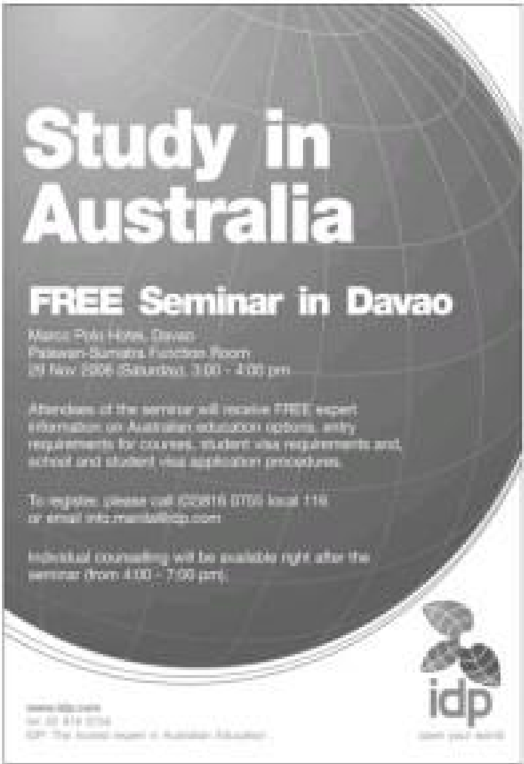
Rain forecast in parts of Mindanao, Luzon

A LOW PRESSURE AREA was spotted off southern Mindanao, while the tail-end of a cold front will affect Central and northern Luzon, the Philippine Atmospheric, Geophysical and Astronomical Services Administration (Pagasa) said yesterday.

The weather bureau said Mindanao and Palawan will have mostly cloudy skies with scattered rain showers and thunderstorms.

"Central and northern Luzon will experience cloudy skies with scattered rain showers becoming widespread rains over the eastern sections which may trigger flash floods and landslides," it also said.

"Moderate to strong winds blowing from the northeast will prevail over Central and northern Luzon and the coastal waters along these areas will be moderate to rough," it said. *Nikko Dizon*







Condoleezza to Gloria: You are US' best friend

Photo opportunity

Just moments to spare

Common Spanish heritage

FG cleared: Diarrhea, not heart attack

Excruciating pain

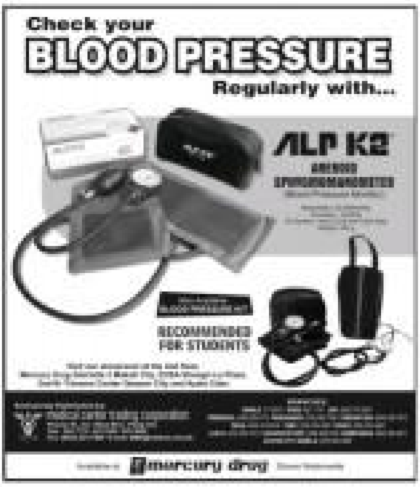
GMA called

He can fly again

Flown on San Miguel plane

Greenpeace to solons: Go renewable, not nuclear





De Venecia confirms ₱500,000 Palace bribe

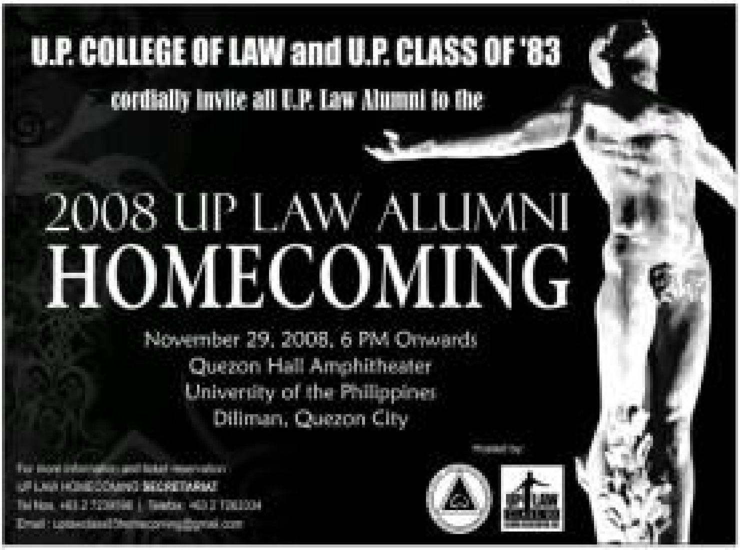
Case likely to be junked

Money in a safe

'I wanted to walk out'

Plot to vilify JDV



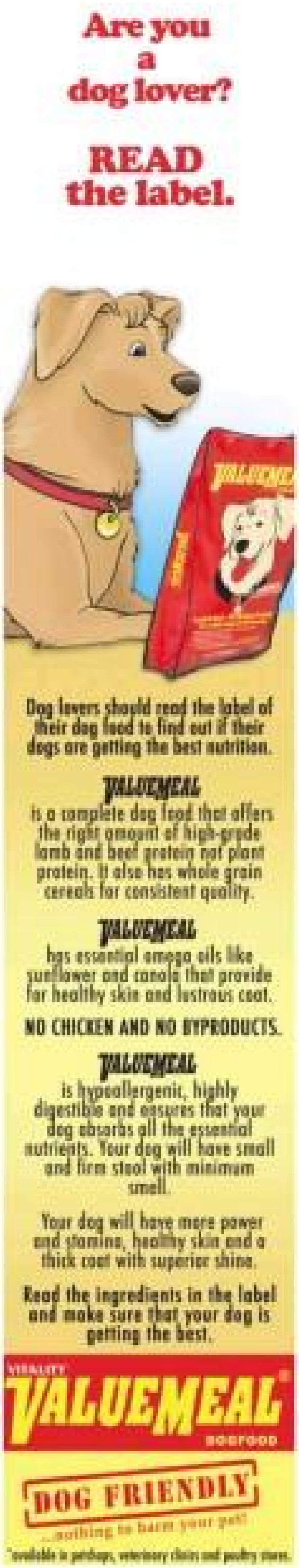


Tutors fight recruiter in cyberspace



F. C. Battad, 77, and R. Battad, 3





Charge of Arroyo Brigade into the jaws of mayhem

From page A1

Arroyo dynasty

Two defeats

Enrile warning

Malacañang doublespeak

Live bomb

Countries still hiring despite crisis

Ex-barber's cream fights warts, moles, even skin cancer



AMAZING cream inventor Rolando dela Cruz receives the gold medal from the World Intellectual Property Office during the closing ceremony of National Inventors Week.

[illegible]

It started with a rat

[illegible]

Making the connection

[illegible]

Sensitive areas

[illegible]

Sleeping in La Loma

[illegible]

The Daily Gospel

[illegible]

HONDA CONDUCTS MEDICAL MISSION



Mr. Kazuhiko Bessho, President of Honda Philippines, Inc. and Honda Foundation, Inc. with some of the children beneficiaries



[illegible]

The Honda Group of Companies in the Philippines composed of Honda Philippines Inc., Honda Cars Philippines, Inc., Honda Parts Manufacturing Corporation and Honda Trading Philippines (Ecozone) Corp. through the Honda Foundation Inc. (HFI) recently conducted a medical mission for residents of Pulong Sta. Cruz-RT, Pulong Sta. Cruz-Relocation and San Lorenzo-Buklod at Sta. Rosa, Laguna.

The Honda Foundation, Inc. (HFI) which was established in 1992 is the implementing arm of the Honda Group of Companies in the Philippines for its Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) initiatives.

Initially, the Foundation focused on strengthening cultural and business ties between the Philippines and Japan and providing financial assistance to Filipino students who desire to pursue studies in Japan. In 2005, the Foundation's Articles of Incorporation were amended to include projects in Environmental Protection (and Safety), Youth Development (& Education), Job Creation and Poverty alleviation (Philanthropy). Its objective was



to strengthen its Corporate Social Responsibility programs in these areas.

Earlier this year, the Foundation also conducted a medical mission in Kalibo Aklan for victims of typhoon "Frank" tagged as "Halig ti Honda; Relief, doctor ag libreng ospital". East-West Business Solutions, Inc. provided free medicines and the Medical Team headed by Dr. Elvis Llarena, Medical Director and Chairman, Advisory Board, EWBS. Coordinator of the activity was Mr. Orlovitano Diaz, Vice President, Corporate Relations, One Pacific Prime Solutions, Inc. HFI partners in Aklan were Next Gen Motors headed by Mr. Jose Mario Aldecoa, President and Proprietor, Couples for Christ-Kalibo Chapter. Eight hundred (800) typhoon victims composed of adults and children availed of free medical check up/consultation. They were also given free medicines, party food, and grocery bags of rice, canned goods, milk, coffee, etc.

As earlier mentioned in October, 2008, HFI held its second major medical mission and partnered with Maxicare Healthcare Corporation, Couples for Christ - San Lorenzo Chapter. Theme of the Medical Mission was "**Kalusugan, mahalaga sa buhay Honda**".

Honda beneficiaries numbering about six hundred (600) adults and children had early Christmas when they were given free health check-up, free medicines and vitamins, Christmas grocery bags and party treats. The children participated in a painting contest and had fun with Maxicare Bear and lollibee mascots.



Children during the painting contest

For its Environmental initiatives, the Foundation has also partnered with the ABS-CBN Bantay Kalikasan in its "Save the La Mesa Dam" and "Bantay Baterya" projects. Since 2002, Honda has covered 11 hectares and planted 4,150 seedlings at the La Mesa Dam. Honda partnered with Gawad Kalinga and Sagip Kapamilya, among others for its Philanthropy projects. In Safety, Honda continued to conduct regular safety driving classes for cars and motorcycles and held jamborees and caravans to promote safety in driving. In 2006, Honda established the Honda Safety Driving Center (HSDC), which was operational 2008 to further advance its purpose of safe driving of motor vehicles and motorcycles.

Mr. Kazuhiko Bessho, President and General Manager of Honda Phils. Inc. and the Honda Foundation Inc., says "I am happy to note that in these CSR initiatives, our Honda associates through the spirit of volunteerism were no more bystanders, but were actively involved in the CSR projects that they themselves have identified. We believe that, Honda's Corporate Social Responsibility or CSR is not merely giving out donations. It is a commitment and an involvement of Honda Associates in striving to fulfill the Honda spirit of a "future society full of dreams".

The Honda companies look forward to do more in helping our less fortunate brothers and sisters as Honda lives to be "a company that society wants to exist".

Honda Foundation, Inc.

INQUIRER

OPINION

Praying for Gloria

EDITORIAL



Abolish the House, not the Senate

As I See It



Neal H. Cruz

Still, I told you so

There's the Rub



Conrado de Quiros

The JBC in the dock

SOUNDING BOARD



Fr. Joaquin G. Bernas, S.J.

Senior citizens and Mercury Drug

REVEILLE



Ramon J. Farolan

Positive and negative democracy

COMMENTARY

Christopher Ryan Maboloc

Congressmen respond

THE LONG VIEW

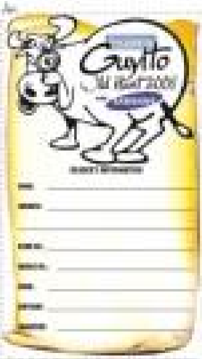


Manuel L. Quezon III

Rotary cries foul on Joc-Joc 'link'

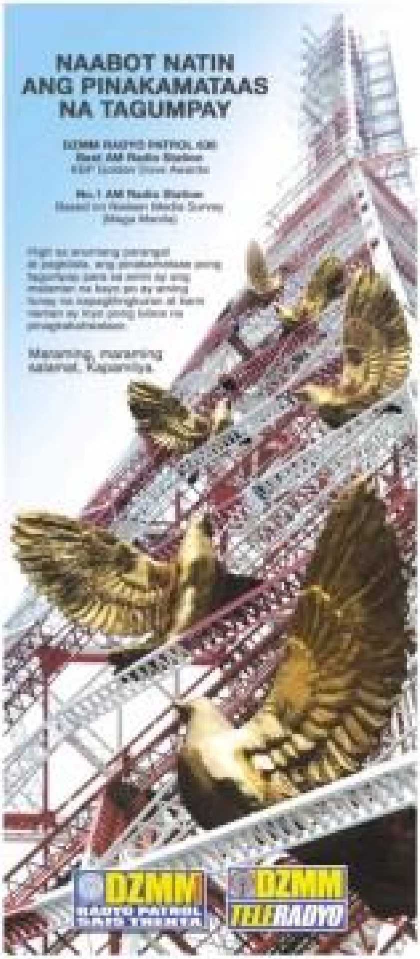
Businessman muddled issue by referring to different incident

Veterans forgotten by House, Senate









Expert sees 'real' world of forensics

Good foundation

Starting out on $50

Source of pride



Joe de V lying, says Mike A on ZTE rap

Out of character

Palace: 'It's just a story'

Too little, too late



Aging vets must wait some more for US benefits

IT IS THE LAST TUESDAY OF THE month, time for Dionisio Valenzuela, [illegible], to lead a group of fellow World War II veterans on their regular trip to the clinic.

[illegible]

Equal treatment

[illegible]

US Congress bills

[illegible]

AP

'Please have him home by Christmas'

[illegible]

Across the NATION

3 more dead in Isabela flooding

NEWSBRIEFS

BATANGAS CITY

Korean, 2 Pinoys saved in Mindoro Sea

ILOCOS SUR

4 die in road accident





ILAGAN, ISABELA—THREE PERsons were reported killed in three Isabela towns as floods caused by continuous rains submerged low-lying villages in the province.

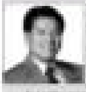
State of calamity

Crop damage

Group slams arrest of activist's nephew for drugs

Motorists wait for hours to get thru Davao flood

Messages



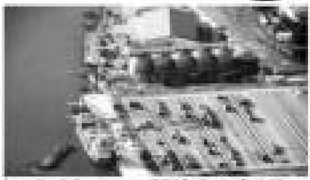






SUBIC BAY

Subic Port Rising



Subic & Clark Two Free Ports, One Mission



Subic Volunteerism: A bequest from the past, a mandate for the future

Living Up to the Vision



He won't just put on a show.
He'll even give you a ticket.
PLDT

A plus METRO

Editor: Ester G. Dipasupil

DID YOU KNOW





Mandaluyong fire leaves 7 dead

NENITA MARQUEZ HAD ALREADY ESCAPED FROM THE BURNING furniture shop where she worked when she suddenly rushed back inside the building in a heroic but ultimately futile attempt to save her 4-year-old granddaughter.





5 hurt as truck plows into cafe

2 rob suspects shot dead by rookie cop

MetroBriefs

Gas station robbed

1 dead, 1 hurt in gun attack

Concert-oratorio on St. Paul



UNLIT FOOTBRIDGE HAVEN FOR HAWKERS, RUGBY USERS

Metro Citizen's call

All's well in Barangay San Isidro

Unfinished project

Mandaluyong fire leaves 7 dead

Thai protesters mass for final push vs gov't



JFK slay haunts agents guarding Obama

Wanted cop kills self on TV

WorldBriefs

Zimbabwe rejects Carter, Annan, Machel

Pirates free tanker after ransom paid

Bureaucrat, wife killed over pet

'Awesome' broadcast by YouTube

Success against 2 viruses

13 whales rescued in Australia

Shooting erupts in mall

The WORLD

Editor Lorenzo B. Ziga

Obama sees economic crisis worsening

NEW YORK/LONDON—US PRESIDENT-ELECT Barack Obama on Saturday said he was crafting a two-year plan to fight an economic crisis of "historic proportions."

Obama said swift and bold action was needed to prevent a deep slump, a spiral of falling prices, and millions of job losses.

For his part, billionaire investor George Soros said the US economy needed an additional $600 billion in support funds to help it withstand a financial crisis which he said "has exceeded my most daring expectations."

The corporate scenario also darkened, with US automaker General Motors Corp considering "all options," including bankruptcy, and Citigroup holding talks with the US government amid doubts about its ability to survive.

"There are no quick or easy fixes to this crisis, which has been many years in the making, and it's likely to get worse before it gets better," Obama said in a radio address on Saturday, the day after reports that he had chosen the New York Federal Reserve president, Timothy Geithner, as treasury secretary rallied stock markets.

Obama signaled he was prepared to push for a much larger package than the $175-billion stimulus measure he called for in his election campaign. His plan would set a goal of creating 2.5 million more jobs by January 2011—a two-year scenario.

"The news this week has only reinforced the fact that we are facing an economic crisis of historic proportions," Obama said.

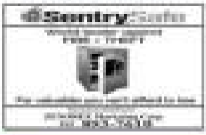
Soros, one of the world's first and best-known hedge fund managers, told Germany's Der Spiegel magazine that the United States needed an infrastructure program and a large economic stimulus package to provide its cities and states with sufficient cash.

The US government has launched a $700-billion financial bailout initiative in response to the turmoil. Soros, however, said the US economy needed additional support measures of between $300 billion and $600 billion.

He criticized US Treasury Secretary Henry Paulson for having reacted too late to the crisis but said he had high hopes about Obama's ability to manage the situation.

In Germany, Chancellor Angela Merkel said she expected the first few months of next year to bring more bad news for Europe's largest economy which is now in recession.

The Wall Street Journal reported that General Motors was considering "all options" and was doing everything it could to avoid a bankruptcy filing. *Reuters*



SPORTS



Lady Stags reach finals; Tigresses forge playoff

Taulava, Cabagnot shine as Tigers maul Painters





P'foods survives SMB





Gomez bags GM title, but RP falls



14TH PINOY G.M. John Paul Gomez

DRESDEN, GERMANY—INTERNATIONAL MASTER JOHN PAUL GOMEZ ...

UNANIMOUS VERDICT
Bautista bows to wily Mexican

Eagles, Lions open Champs League bid





TRIATHLETES embark on the 1-km swim leg of the first Anvaya Cove Triathlon at the Anvaya Cove Beach & Resort Club in Bataan.

Dayondon, Canadian expat rule Anvaya tilt

A sport where age is not a factor

CLEAN LIVING

Manolo R. Iñigo



Ibarra upends Real Spicy, tops Danding Cup

Cebu, Taguig blast foes, gain semis



TAGUIG'S Richard Jimenez scores as Mandaluyong catcher Wilfredo Hidalgo fumbles the throw from first in yesterday's game.

By Marc Anthony Reyes

CEBU AND TAGUIG HURDLED THEIR RESPECTIVE ASSIGNMENTS with ease yesterday to nail semifinal berths and twice-to-beat incentives in Baseball Philippines Series 4 at the Rizal Memorial Ballpark.

With relief pitchers manning the fort for Cebu, the Dolphins demolished the Batangas Bulls in an abbreviated game, 11-1, before the Taguig Patriots whipped the Mandaluyong Mariners, 7-1.

Dumaguete held off Manila, [illegible], in the other game.

Cebu and Taguig will take on each other next week, in a resumption of their postponed game last Oct. 19, to determine the top-ranked teams.

Four other teams bat for the remaining two semifinal berths in the quarterfinals starting Nov. 30. The third- and fourth-ranked teams also get twice-to-beat bonuses in matchups against the last two teams.

The Dolphins went to [illegible] who yielded just five hits in six innings. The Cebuanos wrapped up the victory in the next inning.

"This is really our goal, to make it straight to the semifinals," said Cebu manager [illegible] in Filipino.

Cebu, which [illegible] lost to Batangas on Saturday, surged to a 7-1 lead after just three innings as [illegible] and [illegible] poked RBI hits. [illegible] also tallied three.

Orillana, Cebu's regular starting pitcher, did not work the mound while second-tier hurler [illegible] took a win.

Excellent fielding saved the day for Dumaguete as starter [illegible] and then [illegible] scattered seven hits while yielding [illegible].

Centerfielder [illegible] scored Dumaguete's first run in the fifth. He blasted a single to the right, advanced to second on a fielder's choice, moved to third on a sacrifice fly to the right by [illegible] and scored on a throwing error by second baseman [illegible].

[illegible box scores]

[illegible]

Runnex Classic slated Dec. 7

THE UNIVERSITY OF the Philippines Diliman campus in Quezon City will be the venue of the 25th Runnex Classic, one of the year's biggest running events scheduled Dec. 7.

The race is expected to draw more than 1,000 runners, according to the organizing Runnex Runners Club Philippines Inc. (Runnex), led by president [illegible], former head of Lepanto Consolidated Mining Corp., and vice president [illegible] of Bank of the Philippine Islands.

The Executive Classic race, with the theme [illegible], paves the way for the holding of the Quezon City International Marathon next year.

Runnex is composed of professionals, businessmen, and executives.

For inquiries, call Specialized Trade and Marketing Inc. [illegible] at 927-7306, 998-0679 or fax 927-6266. — [illegible]

100-fight card in 'Rambulan'

[illegible] entries all over the country take over [illegible] in the 1998 National [illegible] 5-Stag Derby [illegible] at the [illegible] Coliseum with more than 100 fights.

Participants from Regions [illegible], Cebu, Davao, Iloilo, [illegible] and [illegible] plunge into action today. Another [illegible] fight is set on Wednesday, the last elimination round in Metro Manila.

'Bakbakan' on at Makati today

[illegible] 5-Stag Derby [illegible] at the Makati Coliseum with its championship round today.

The National Federation of Gamefowl Breeders [illegible] championship rounds (Nov. 21, 22, 24, 25, Dec. 2 and 4).

Only two perfect [illegible] — [illegible] of Lipa City [illegible] and [illegible].



Ikeda settles for 2nd in China Women's Am

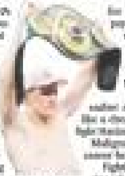
SPORTS



MIAMI'S Dwyane Wade drives to the basket.

Wade powers Heat past Pacers

Hatton TKOs Malignaggi, may face Pacquiao next



HATTON celebrates. AP

Que fires 66, finishes 11th in HK Open



QUE: Best Pinoy

Business

Citigroup to expand workforce in RP

Outsourcing expansion seen creating 1,000 new jobs

By Doris C. Dumlao

WHILE AMERICAN FINANcial giant Citigroup is streamlining across the globe, it expects to create about 1,000 new jobs and [illegible]

CITIGROUP B2

IN THIS ISSUE

BPOs shifting to high-value services

By Doris L. Lucas

THE LOCAL BUSINESS PROCESS OUTsourcing (BPO) industry [illegible]

BPOS B2

CURRENCIES



PESO-DOLLAR RATE

STOCK MARKET

PSE COMPOSITE INDEX



Bargain-hunting seen

[illegible]



Weak economy, strong currency

No Free Lunch



Cielito F. Habito

Stronger yen

Carry trade

The unwinding

BPOs shifting to high-value ...

From page B1





BSP sees Dec. inflation at 9.9%

By Doris C. Dumlao

THE BANGKO SENTRAL NG PILIPINAS SEES a good chance that the inflation rate would decline to 9.8-9.9 percent in December due to the sharp fall in global oil prices and an anticipated reversal of the peso against the dollar.

The forecast of a slower increase in consumer prices toward the end of the year was contained in a report discussed by the BSP's Monetary Board during its monetary policy setting meeting on Thursday, top monetary authorities said.

During the meeting, the Monetary Board kept the BSP's key interest rates steady, stressing the need to curb the still high core inflation rate and the pressure from the depreciation of the peso against the dollar.

Under its latest outlook, the BSP sees the inflation rate going back to single-digit level by the end of the year, an improvement from its earlier forecast.

Earlier, the BSP said it was expecting the inflation to hit single-digit level again in the first quarter or early second quarter of 2009.

Given the 9.8- to 9.9-percent inflation rate projection for December, a BSP official said the average increase in consumer prices for the whole of 2008 would be well within the BSP's 9 percent to 11 percent forecast.

In a separate interview, another official explained: "We're just saying there's a likelihood it will fall to single-digit level because of the sharp decline in oil prices and the possibility that the peso will firm up toward the end of the year due to the remittances season."

The country's year-on-year inflation rate, pushed up by skyrocketing food and fuel prices in earlier months, peaked at 12.5 percent in August. It, however, slowed to 11.8 percent in September and to 11.2 percent in October.

Last week, global oil prices fell to below $50 a barrel, as fresh recession worries sparked fears about a slowing global energy demand. In the middle of this year, oil prices hit a record high of $147 per barrel.

And while the peso breached the 50:$1 psychological barrier last week, the BSP expects the local currency to firm up against the greenback on the back of heavy remittances from overseas Filipino workers during the Christmas season.

On Friday, the peso rebounded to 49.82 at closing after hitting an intra-day low of 50.17 against the dollar.

Earlier, the central bank slashed the reserve requirements on banks by 2 percentage points. The reserve requirement, now set at 19 percent, is the ratio of deposits and deposit substitutes that banks are required to keep in low-yielding and liquid assets at the central bank.

Citigroup ...

From page B1

some of excellence because of superior skilled workers and attractive labor costs," Jones said.

"From call centers to financial reporting and service centers, there's a whole lot of activity moving to the Philippines," he said.

Citigroup, headquartered in New York last week plans to cut more than 50,000 jobs or about 14 percent of its workforce to weather the deepening global financial market turbulence.

Jones said the bank obviously would not keep all of its existing staff in the Philippines, where the bank was investing heavily in systems and processes to make operations more efficient.

"Inevitably, if you go through change as we upgrade our systems, as systems get automated, that happens," he said when asked about potential lay offs.

But overall, he said the bank would hire more people in the Philippines as Citigroup's global restructuring would require the expansion of regional BPO hubs.

"We are experiencing globally, doing what we have to do now that the markets are still functioning," Jones said.

Asked about the bank's outlook for next year, he said: "It's going to be a tough year globally. In the Philippines, it doesn't feel it's safe yet but we're remaining prepared for it."

"We haven't really seen it impact the consumer but we're prepared for it," he added.

Wall Street was filled with speculation on Friday that the New York-based Citigroup may soon consider selling part or all of its shares to handle the global financial turmoil.

San Miguel plans $2-B preferred stock offering

Raising cash for new acquisitions

Ayala Land allots ₱20-B capex in '09

Gov't to raise funds by issuing investment paper

BSP getting P25B to beef up capital







SMART offers 500K every day





Auto industry sees slower growth in sales next year





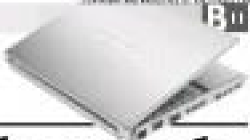






InfoTech





A notebook light to the touch

By Raquel P. Gomez

THE TECH INDUSTRY IS such a fickle sea.

[illegible]



BALLOONS carry aloft the Portege R600, which Toshiba claims to be the world's lightest fully equipped ultraportable device.



THE PORTEGE A600 in silver (opposite), and in glossy black (below).

Lenovo enters server market

[illegible]

Aspire One: Portability, connectivity, versatility

[illegible]



Headphones that prevent hearing loss

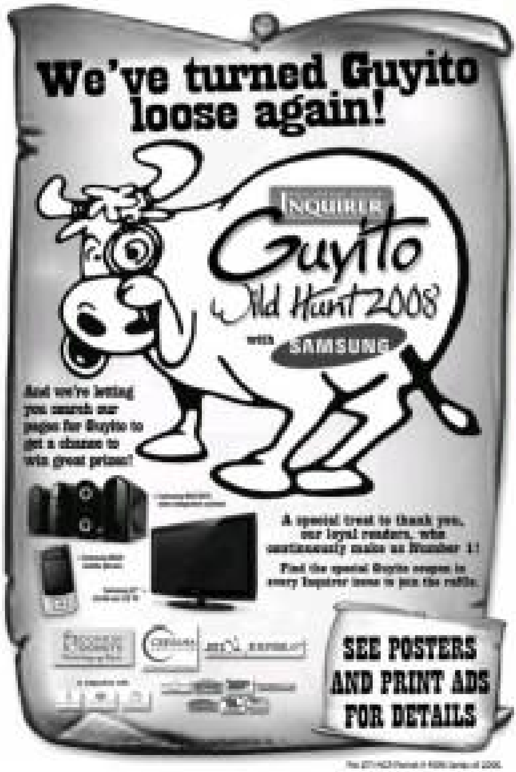
Saving people from fate worse than deaf



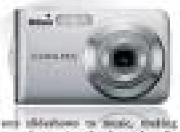


Connected without wires





Nikon provides coolest way to capture scenes

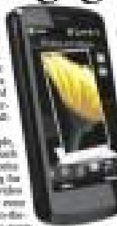


Taiwan audio brand debuts in RP



From HTC comes an engaging touchy-feely phone

By Raquel P. Gomez





Intel unveils fastest processor on the planet





BUSINESS

Gov't borrowings surged to ₱32.2B in Oct.

By Michelle V. Remo

Globe Toasts Mindanao SMEs' success















Foreign investors seek clearer rule on tax perks

Coco products exports down 38.3% in Aug.

By Amy R. Remo

BUSINESS Monday

Should you borrow to pay off debt?

Ways to manage your IOUs:

1. Prioritize. Get a grip on how much you really owe.
2. Focus on where you're bleeding the most. List down all your debt from highest interest to lowest.
3. Avoid new debt. If you can't pay in full, then you can't afford to swipe.
4. Save, save, save. Keep a healthy emergency fund of three to six months of your monthly consumption.

Balance transfer, add-on rates

Waffle Time gets Sun

Financial markets: The growing unpaid debts

MAPping the Future



Should you ...

Managing debt

Exports minus imports

International finance

Under the blade of big banks

Luxury watch brand expands amid gloomy times

A GLOOMY ECONOMIC [illegible] notwithstanding, one of the most expensive watch brands in the world is opening a new boutique.

Omega president Stephen Urquhart will be in Manila to inaugurate the second Omega boutique at the upscale Greenbelt 5 this week.

"Omega has established a strong presence in the Philippines and has enjoyed an excellent reception for the last [illegible] years. So it is fitting that we open a new boutique in the heart of Manila so we can make our full product range available to Filipinos and serve them even more effectively," said Urquhart, who will be flying in from Switzerland.

Urquhart will bring with him a Seamaster Planet Ocean watch with a special box signed by Omega brand ambassador George Clooney, the Oscar-winning actor, director and screenwriter.

The special Seamaster Planet Ocean is a true rarity as George Clooney signed only a few watch boxes to be featured at selected Omega events around the world, Stephen Urquhart pointed out.



URQUHART

"This clearly shows how special the Philippines is to Omega."

As part of the celebration, Omega is also participating in the first-ever luxury watch exhibit in Manila, "Treasures: The Art of Time." The large luxury watch exhibition, which is being held to celebrate the opening of eight other luxury watch brand boutiques (to December 3), will be the first of its kind in the Philippines.

These planned activities and the attendance of Omega president Stephen Urquhart will highlight the grand opening of the second Omega boutique in the country which is part of Omega's network of retailers located in the world's most desirable shopping locations.

For over 160 years, Omega has maintained a reputation for precision, exquisite design, craftsmanship and style. Omega has also been Official Timekeeper for the Olympic Games 23 times since 1932. The Omega Speedmaster has also been the watch worn by NASA's astronauts on every manned space flight since 1965, including six trips to the moon.

The first Omega boutique is in the [illegible] Mall.

BUSINESS Monday

Gearing for OFWs' financial wellness



CHILDREN of OFWs during the launch of the Savers' Club

Baguio's oldest credit co-op unaffected by slowdown

Not too many takers for ₱2-B loan to SMEs

Gearing for OFWs' financial wellness



GRAND launching of the Pamilyang OFW Savers' Club at the Lipa Youth Sports and Cultural Center

Earlier homecoming

Firms to send expats abroad despite crisis

Meat, fish processing seminar set



Features in Brief

Metrobank Corporate Stewardship:
Enhancing the value of human capital

Human capital is one of the most important investments of a company. For a company to be successful, its investment in people should also generate a good return.

Employee benefit programs are set-up by companies to promote and reward loyalty among its employees. These programs help companies reach their goals especially at this time when there is a continuous war for talent. Attracting and retaining the right people is now a major challenge for companies as employees move not only from one employer to another, but also from one country to another to look for greener and better-managed pastures.

Metrobank, the Philippines' largest bank, helps companies in attracting and retaining the right people through its Corporate Stewardship Program.

Corporate Stewardship offers a cost-effective investment in human capital through a broad spectrum of employee benefit trust plans - from basic retirement to provident plan, optional savings and loan plan, and other special employee benefit plans such as profit-sharing and stock bonus plans.

The Metrobank Corporate Stewardship Program provides a cost-effective investment for a company in three ways: Solution, Convenience, and Expertise.

SOLUTION. Companies need to attract and retain the right people. But the definition of "right people" differs from one company to another. Thus, a company needs to know the suitable employee benefit program that will help bring them in and retain them. As part of its Corporate Stewardship Program, Metrobank takes time to sit down with the client and discuss extensively its needs to help determine the solution that will allow it to win the war for talent - one that is most appropriate and suitable to the company's current business or financial situation. This may be from the basic retirement package or to an expanded program that includes defined benefit (gratuity plan) and defined contribution (provident plan) and other special employee benefit trust programs as well as an optional savings and loan plan.

CONVENIENCE. Every step of the way, Metrobank makes it easy and convenient for a company to set-up and implement its own employee benefit program. This involves (1) Conceptualization of Plan Rules; (2) Access to Actuarial Valuation Service; (3) Drafting of Investment Guidelines; and (4) Application for Tax Exemption and other Regulatory Requirements. To help implement the program, the Bank provides various services which include (1) Fund Management; (2) Fund Accounting; (3) Benefit Payment Processing and (4) Collection of Retirement Fund Contributions among others. The process is made easy with the full use of Metrobank's vast network of resources.

EXPERTISE. Employee benefit programs, being long-term in nature, are constantly affected by changing scenarios. Metrobank's extensive experience in managing employee benefit programs allows it to guide clients in re-aligning their plans to conform to new trends, legislation, regulation and accounting standards or when there are developments within the clients' business such as merger and acquisitions or global purchase-sale agreements.

Management of employee benefit plan assets is also of critical importance. The company can enjoy notable savings when their employee benefit fund outperforms established benchmarks such as actuarial valuation assumptions.

As proof of its expertise, Metrobank topped the 93rd Survey on Investment Performance of Retirement Funds in the Philippines conducted by independent consulting firm Watson Wyatt Philippines. Metrobank emerged first in the survey in terms of investment performance among investment managers handling at least five funds in the All Trusteed Funds category (covering the quarter ended March 2008). Based on the report, Metrobank performed best in the following periods: (1) Full Year 2007 (13.47% p.a.); (2) Last Year (5.39% p.a.); (3) last 3 years covering April 2005 - March 31, 2008 (12.90% p.a.); and (4) the last 5 years covering April 2003 - March 31, 2008 (13.56% p.a.).

In Corporate Stewardship, Metrobank manages the clients' assets guided by the following investment philosophy: (1) Recognition of Client's Goals and Risk Orientation, (2) Security of Investment As Primary Consideration, (3) Benchmark Approach to Performance Evaluation and (4) Long Term Commitment to Clients. This investment philosophy is Metrobank's cornerstone in delivering the highest standards in managing its Trust business, proven by its expertise and consistent top-quality performance in fund management.

Corporate Stewardship is open to companies who want to always stay ahead by having the right people to run and support its business. For those with existing employee benefit programs, Metrobank can help improve the earning potential and features of their plans. For those who have yet to set-up their own employee benefit programs or plan to expand their benefits, Metrobank can definitely make the entire process convenient for them, from set-up to implementation.

Corporate Stewardship makes employee benefit programs rewarding for both the company and its employees. A company that has the appropriate employee benefit program will have loyal and motivated employees. Loyalty generates savings on hiring and training costs for the company. Motivated employees are more productive and will help generate more revenues. Through Corporate Stewardship, Metrobank helps companies become good stewards of their employees. In return, companies reap the benefits of attracting and keeping the right people.

Metrobank Trust Banking Group manages over 350 retirement funds to date. As of August 31, 2008, Metrobank's total assets under management (AUM) was recorded at P152.31 Billion. To know more about Corporate Stewardship, call 580-8500 or email tbgmbtc@metrobank.com.ph

Empowering the service worker

By Ramon Alampay, Regina Hechanova, and Edna Franco
Contributors

WHEN FREDERICK TAYLOR FIRST TOOK out his stopwatch and pioneered the concept of scientific management in the early 1900s, most people believed there was one best way to accomplish a given task. This changed in the 1920s, when companies began to let workers participate in decision-making, and involving them in the management of organizations.

WORKPLACE WISDOM

One may argue, however, that empowerment fits well with individualistic cultures such as the West, but will it work in the Philippines?

The Ateneo Center for Organization Research and Development examined the extent to which empowerment is associated with employee performance and job satisfaction among Filipino service workers. A total of 956 front-line personnel from five service sectors, namely hotels, call centers, banks, food and airline, were surveyed.

Does empowerment work?

Our results confirmed that empowerment is associated with both performance and job satisfaction. Empowered employees are likely to be described as high performers by their supervisors. Also, empowered employees are more satisfied with their job. This is a notable finding because studies have shown that highly satisfied workers tend to be more loyal and committed to their organizations. This has important implications for service organizations, particularly for those in the industries we studied. For example, hotel managers will appreciate having satisfied and committed employees during those slow periods when staffing is low and people are asked to pick up the slack a little bit more. Organizations in industries characterized by rapid employee turnover, such as call centers, may gain some advantage in retaining staff if their empowerment programs lead to greater satisfaction and loyalty among their workers.

Creating an empowering organization

Given the promise of empowerment—the next, and perhaps more challenging question is "how does one create an empowered organization?" Creating an empowering organization requires a vision that is shared by all. This also implies organizations are part of the planning process and that there is alignment between individual, team and organizational goals.

Even when there is team spirit, people will not put their necks on the line if they do not feel safe doing so

Empowerment also requires a certain culture—one that strives for excellence, allows people to take risks, and provides support for people. Even when there is team spirit, people will not put their necks on the line if they do not feel safe about doing so.

On the other hand, empowerment requires the absence of bureaucracy that will dampen initiative. Thus, self-directed work, team management, flat organizations and autonomy are some ways to support empowerment. This also implies that accountabilities and decision-making can be done at the lowest possible level in the organization. Communication of expectations and boundaries are important in order that employees are confident about what they can or cannot do. Sharing best practices and providing venues for employee updates are important in creating a culture of empowerment. Rewards systems are also crucial in reinforcing desirable behaviors such as making suggestions, taking the initiative to meet customer needs.

Organizations also need to ensure that they provide adequate training so employees will have both the capability and self-confidence to make decisions. Front-liners need to know what is expected of them and what they can and cannot do. Beyond providing front-liners with customer service skills, companies need to hone their problem-solving and decision-making skills as well.

Just as important, an empowered employee requires a leader who is empowering—one who is not threatened with having to share authority and who will allow people to take risks and make mistakes.

(This article is an abridged version of a study featured in the Ateneo Cord's book, "The Way We Work" (Ateneo de Manila University Press, 2005). Feedback at cord@admu.edu.ph.)



FEATURES IN BRIEF

CEO speaks at UA&P

ALASKA MILK CORP. PRESIDENT AND CEO Wilfred Steven Uytengsu Jr. recently visited the University of Asia and the Pacific as speaker for the school's CEO Colloquia: The Integrated Marketing Communications Effectiveness Awards Conference Series. The series has previously seen the participation of several top executives coming to the university to exchange ideas on business issues, and to share the best practices in corporate social responsibility and the promotion of societal values through marketing communications.

With an audience of senior executives from the advertising industry and client companies, Uytengsu discussed the topic "Caring for the Filipino Family's Health and Welfare—The Alaska Campaign."

He said an integral part of Alaska's goals was to promote itself as an advocate of health and nutrition through different endeavors, such as its sports development programs, tournaments and a professional basketball team.

"Sports and nutrition are vital in communicating our message, and so, we acquired a franchise in the PBA," Uytengsu said. "We wanted to run that team not just as an independent team, but as an integral business unit. We wanted our players to be ambassadors of the brand. We tried to seek out players, who would exude the cleanliness and wholesomeness of Alaska Milk."

The company's sports development program enables Alaska to further reach out to the youth. "We do the Power Camp with Tim Cone and some of his coaches so that we can talk to the youth about being involved with sports and keeping them away from some of the vices like drugs," Uytengsu said.

Brand strategist to visit RP

WHATEVER YOU DO, DON'T GET TOO BIG. True or false? Companies say their brands stand for something, but do consumers agree? What lessons or "tricks of the trade" can we learn from the great brands of our time?

These are just a few of the many challenging questions that a brand strategy guru will answer when he comes to the Philippines to share his brand "secrets" with the local tourism industry and the rest of the corporate community.

Brand strategist Martin Roll will be in Manila for the 7th Philippine Incentive (Phil Incentive) Marketing Conference slated at the Taal Vista Hotel Tagaytay and Canyon Cove Nasugbu, Batangas on Nov. 27-28.

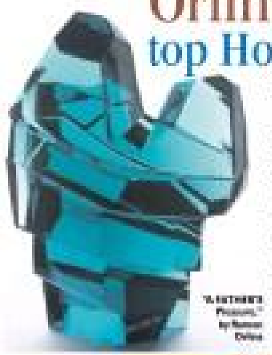
Roll is one of 24 experts, who will speak at the conference to guide local players on how to create their market niche, build brand worth and increase market share.

Roll is the chief executive officer of Venture Republic, an advisory firm on branding.

He is the author of "Asian Brand Strategy." ...

Editor Thelma Sioson San Juan · Arts and Books Editor Lito B. Zulueta
LIFESTYLE Arts&Books

Orlina, Parial and Rubio top Hong Kong charity auction



"A Father's Pleasure," by Ramon Orlina

TEN PAINTINGS FROM 10 FILIPINO artists raised HK$958,000 or P5.495 million last Nov. 3 at a fundraising auction held in the Ballroom of JW Marriott Hotel at Pacific Place, Central District, Hong Kong. The auction was organized by International Care Ministries (ICM), a Hong Kong-based charity.

In an animated evening attended by captains of industry, investment bankers and top fundraisers in Hong Kong, Philippine art led the way in raising funds to help over 160,000 families in the Visayas and Mindanao.

The proceeds raised from Philippine paintings are a marked increase from the P1.8 million raised from the art portion of the event.

Ramon Orlina's "A Father's Pleasure," a 56-cm x 27-cm x 38-cm sculpture carved in blue green glass, sold for HK$135,000 (P807,000). Mario Parial's "Sulo ng



Visualization of memory and feeling

By Constantino C. Tejero



"CITY Bus"

A SUBTLE TRANSFORMATION occurs in the paintings of Samuel Penaso. Probably occurring on his part, certain artistic disciplines seem to have seeped onto his canvases.

A multimedia artist from Bohol, who graduated with a Fine Arts degree, major in Advertising, from Technological University of the Philippines and took a course in Sculpture at Philippine Women's University Institute of Fine Arts, Penaso is into painting, sculpture, photography, installation, video and performance art.

He is not only a much-awarded visual artist since his student days but an accomplished performance artist as well. He is a core member of the Tupada Action and Media Art and active in the Art Association of the Philippines.

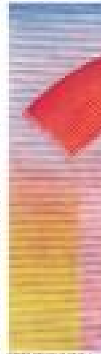
He represented the country in the Nippon International Performance Art Festival in Japan three years ago, and went on an artist's residency in Thailand through a cultural-exchange program.

Recently he was invited to perform at the Asia Performance Art Festival in Seoul and the Changdo Biennale in Korea, and join a group exhibition in Gallery Hart at the Korea Foundation Cultural Center.

Manifestations of Penaso's various artistic pursuits are visibly displayed in his 14th solo exhibit "Kuwintas," 20 pieces in acrylic on canvas, until Dec. 4 in Galerie Anita, 1/2, LRI Design Plaza, 210 Nicanor Garcia St. (formerly Reposo), Bel-Air II, Makati City.

The series of abstraction is invariably done in impasto, the pigment laid thick on the canvas then scored into patterns and randomly gashed with curves and straight lines here and there. The highly textured results are in near-monochromes of brown, gold, yellow, orange, red, gray, blue, green, with accumulations of contrasting colors in half-moons, circles and straight lines both long and short.

The exhibit's title is Korean term for "cheers." The show was inspired by the artist's brief stay in Korea, and the paintings are expressions of a fond recollection of that country.



"CONQUERING Palace"

They are similar to the abstraction pieces in last year's ... Renaissance Gallery ... Penaso said those pieces are ... out of my personal ... memories," and that ...



"BLANK Dream"

Lindslee's new abstracts at Hiraya

EXCITING YOUNG ABSTRACTIONIST Lindslee opens his new exhibit, "Work Like Nobody Is Watching," Nov. 27 at Hiraya Gallery.

With works that straddle between complete non-representational abstraction and the "pure painting" of Orphism, the artist interrogates the consolidated notion of art-making as a solitary, almost auto-erotic process with the employment of thick strokes on large-scale canvases that tackle themes of focus and distraction, destruction and wholeness, solitude and company.

If the self as psychological subject splinters into the phantasmic mirror-image of the Symbolic order, is the lonesome artist truly without audience in the private performance of his painting, or is he the secret exhibitionist whose watchers are his own multiple selves?

Cubism as the psychic guide that interferes by way of implicit brute gestures, the painting and rebellion: Works Lindslee engage and revel in it using colors that clash and collide, then ultimately captivate. The artist hopes that the audience will be greater than just the artist's innumerable selves.

"Work Like Nobody Is Watching" runs until Dec. 15. Hiraya Gallery is located at 530 UN Ave., Ermita, Manila. Call 523-3331, e-mail hiraya@info.com.ph, or visit www.hiraya.com.



"BREAK: Back"



"BLANKET of Distraction"



"WATER Dance XXXI," by Rico Lazaro



"MOTHER and Child," by Jovan Benito

Veteran and young artists in Stephanie exhibit

TWENTY-EIGHT ARTISTS COME TOGETHER in the pre-Christmas show "Unwrapped," at Galerie Stephanie, which opens Nov. 29 at 7 p.m.

"By putting together works by the masters and up-and-coming artists, and with different mediums, themes and genres, we hope to give our clients a vast selection as they choose lasting, meaningful gifts for their loved ones and for themselves," said Alona C. de la Cruz, Stephanie's curator.

Included in the exhibit are works by Lydia Velasco, Jovenal Sanez, Dominic Rubio, Rafael Pacco, Jovan Benito, Amador Banguilla, Carlo Magno, Karina Bolasco, Nell Gunigao, Grandier Bella, Jes Evangelista, Mario Mendoza, Raul Roco Jr., Ivan Mateo, Francis Nacin, Owen Jusayan, Giligan Cruz, Chi Cruz, Angel Cacnio, Rico Lazaro, Coby Cruz, Ronan Benitez, Randall Dillo, Rodel Jaranilla, Eddy Ruiz, Robert Shook, Amanda Lugaaro and Sherilyn Vergara.

The show runs until Dec. 16. Galerie Stephanie is located at Unit 3B, Pan Plaza Bldg., 1815 E. Rodriguez Jr. Ave., Libis, Quezon City. Call (632) 709-2466 or (632) 985-6679 or visit www.galeriestephanie.multiply.com and www.galeriestephanie.blogspot.com.



"VINTAGE Car," by Jes Evangelista

Michael Cacnio ...

BRASS SCULPTOR MICHAEL ... is well-loved for his works ... children playing traditional ... games such as sungka, ... luksong tinik ... and ... trumpo.

His other works depict ... gaged in cheerful and frolicking ... like his sorbetero and magtataho ... tender renditions of parents ... various poses of affection ... bonding.

Cacnio said his works are ... memories of his childhood ... day scenes of growing up in ... Malabon.

In "Eclectic," Cacnio ... take the social-realist ... works of his and exploring ... livability of his material ... material needs and desires ... man.

In this collection, Cacnio ... for the first time, his paint... on. Their debut, whether ... to his solid or some application ... small sculpture seen, is evidence ... versatility as an artist.

Orlina, Parial and Rubio

From page B1

Mine" ("Joy of Life") a 30-in x 36-in work in acrylic on canvas sold for $120,000 (P5,400,000); and Dominic Rubio's "Three Chairs," an oil on canvas 48-in x 64-in work sold for $180,000 (P620,000).

Seven-year-old Hannah Marbella's 36-in x 24-in work titled "Beauty" sold for $60,000 (P372,000).

(Hannah is an award-winning artist who has had over 40 awards and citations to his credit. One of his paintings was recently used as the artwork for a postage stamp issued by the government of the Republic of Korea).

Carlo Magno's mixed-media triptych titled "Passages I, II, III" sold for HK$34,000 (P211,000). It had a total dimension of 24 in x 72 in. Nell Gunigao' "Rice Harvest," done in oil on canvas with a size of 36 in x 24 in, sold for HK$30,000 (P180,000).

Adrian Abes' 20-in x 36-in relief-inspired work "Old Telephone" in oil on canvas raised HK$27,000 (P157,000). Jovan Benito's work "Best Friend," an oil on canvas work with size 20 in x 36 in, sold for HK$26,000 (P161,000).

A small Santos work on paper sold for HK$20,800 (P180,000) or double its Manila market price, while Renato Marbella's "Deep Woods," an oil on canvas work, sold for HK$22,100 (P137,000).

Among ICM's programs are providing nutrition and health care, training in health education and providing poverty livelihood programs to help people out of poverty. It also has pre-school programs for children as well as a new-life program which includes reconstructive surgery for burn victims, chemotherapy for cancer-stricken individuals, surgery and therapy for victims of critical accidents.



"OLD Telephone," by Adrian Abes



"BEST Friend," by Jovan Benito



"RIVER Cruise," by Dominic Rubio

VISUAL ...

Recio at Magnet

RISA RECIO PRESENTS "Apoptosis," until Nov. 29, at Magnet High Street, 8th Bonifacio High Street, 8th Avenue, Bonifacio Global City. The show is divided in two parts: the "Poppy Park" and the "6AM/PM series," both basically commentaries on the suicidal process. Call 0750-911 or 8505495.

Sygaco's in Cavite

Dennis A.E. Sygaco and ... "Dismantling the Avant-garde" ... lang Fredie Aguinaldo Gallery ... Dasmariñas, Cavite.

Iloilo artist at Liongoren

Brandy and Betty, sixth ... aly, exist together in "Lilak" ... and "Paipak," a group exhibit ... of Remy Gamalo and a group ... show of art works on the ... spiritually, Nov. 17 to Dec. ... Liongoren Gallery (111 New ... York and Stanford Streets ...



"PEACE," by Roel Salagantiko

Jonas, Neil Dobanton, Gilbert ... by Gorlitaz, Eddie Dozon ... Salagantiko, and others. ...

New Finale

Opening last Sept. 26, in ... 17, La Fuerza Compound ... City, Finale Art File presents ... To its inaugural show, ... artists whose works are ... as Anje Bandoy, Melanie ... sabio Pagan, Robert Langenegger ... Manuel Ocampo, Jason ... Ragopan and Eric Zipandi ... Bifurcus," ... a suite of ...





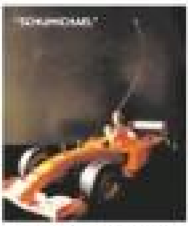
"PUKER"



"PINOY Tiller"

'Filipiniana Diabolica' at Kaida

...cnio turns 'Eclectic'

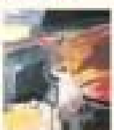


"SCHUMIDAEL"



"SEGAL" detail

...L ARTS







Farley del Rosario's 'Dreamworx'









Avellana shows 'Eight Faces'

VISUAL ARTS

Chooi at Arias



Pancho Piano in NY

Cruz-Garcia at Drawing Room

LIFESTYLE Arts & Books

Mabuhay Singers hold 50th anniversary concert

THE MABUHAY SINGERS, THE well-loved ... group that has popularized folk, traditional, classic, and standard Filipino songs through vinyl records and live performances in and out of the country, will celebrate its 50th anniversary in a two-night concert called "Gintong Gunita sa Ika-50 Taon ng Pagawit" (Golden Memories for 50 Years of Singing) at Philamlife Theater Nov. 26-27.

Under the direction of Jerry C. Respeto, with a script by Michael M. Coroza, the show will highlight the story and circumstances behind the establishment of the group in 1958 by the late Manuel P. Villar, president and CEO of Mabuhay Records Corp. (Villar) more popularly known as Villar Records, and the songs that made the group legendary in the history of Philippine popular music and recording.

The Mabuhay Singers were originally a combination of two famous trios in the late '50s,

MABUHAY D3



The secret of their success? Good teachers

World-class opera singers Evelyn Mandac and Noel Velasco thank their local mentors for their triumphs abroad

Good teacher

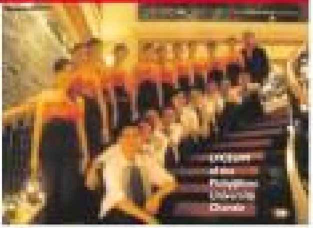
Necessary evil

High profile

Honored



Manila Cathedral holds 3rd Pipe Organ Festival





ALEJANDRO Consolacion II



MAPUA Institute of Technology Concert Singers

Concert of modern dance and live-sound performance

'Spoof' from FEU's ATC

Lorca tragedy at Instituto Cervantes

Mabuhay Singers hold 50th . . .

From page D1

Trio Ilaya, composed of Carmen Camacho, Mary Hermoso and Rayt Lacson, and Lovers Trio, composed of Adie Torres, Bert Legaspi and Flora San Juan.

Prominent artists like Ruben Tagalog, Alfred Lozano, Cely Bautista, Ric Manrique Jr., Rita Rivera, Don David, Flor Ocampo, Noel Samonte, Rosita Flores, Robert Malaga, Eusebia Rivera, Robert Nuñes, Cid Lucero and others became part of the group at one time or another.

Under the baton of musical director Leopoldo Silos, the group was able to record more than a hundred long-playing albums and singles from 1958 up to the early '70s. The group toured the United States and Canada as part of the Department of Tourism's Balikbayan Project in 1973 to encourage Filipinos abroad to come and visit their native land.

The Philippine Records Association awarded the group a citation in 1973 for its all-time top-selling records.

In 2004, the group received a Lifetime Achievement Award from the Aliw Awards Foundation. The Komisyon sa Wikang Filipino (Filipino Language Commission) gave the group a National Award of Recognition for actively promoting Philippine languages and cultures through


RAFE Lacson, Cely Bautista, Carmen Camacho, Peping de Leon and Jimmy Salonga

The indestructible folk singing group continues to charm and enthrall while creating new generations of audiences for traditional music

the songs they have recorded and strongly performed.

In August, as part of the celebration of National Language month, the Department of Filipino of the School of Humanities of Ateneo de Manila University paid tribute to the Mabuhay Singers as an important Philippine cultural icon with a lecture-presentation and a month-long exhibit of the group's memorabilia.

The group regularly sings in its weekly program, "Himig ng Pasa," which airs every Sunday 8-9 p.m., on dwBR 104.3 FM. Professor Michael M. Coroza of Ateneo de Manila University hosts the program.

Art patrons Sonia Roco and Mr. Nood Jesus Lacuesta of the International Eye Center support the program and they both sing with the group every Sunday night.

The present members of the Mabuhay Singers and the ones who will perform on Nov. 26 and 27 are Cely Bautista, Rayt Lacson, Carmen Camacho, Peping de Leon, Eddie Romero, Jimmy Salonga and Marlon Manlhegue. Sonia Roco is hosting the shows that will start at 8 p.m.

For tickets and reservations, contact Ariel del Mundo of the Corporate Affairs Office of Philamlife Theater at 5260159 and 5260458.

Multimedia installation at Mag:net

RUNNING UNTIL TONIGHT IS THE multimedia installation "Degrees of Separation: Phases and Reflections in Mediascape" at Mag:net Gallery Katipunan.

The installation is in connection with the ongoing 5th Southeast Asian Cinemas Conference hosted by Ateneo. It features the works of Joy Aquino and Renato Ortiz from the Philippines, and Brandon Tan from Singapore. It is curated by Merv Espina.

According to the curatorial notes, the multimedia installation "illustrates incremental accumulation of human activity through media and technological devices. From the private and intimate confines of personalized sound environments, to quirky explorations of 'closeness' and the limits of personal space, to the phases and faces of 'the world-at-large' as brought to us by media processes churning in glorious gobbledygook—it's not so much as what separates the other, but what each reflects into each."

Mag:net Gallery is at 335 Agcor Bldg., Katipunan Ave., Loyola Heights, Quezon City. Call 9295191, e-mail info@magnetgalleries.com or visit www.magnetgalleries.com.

A writer's sense of mission



BENJAMIN Pimentel

Tanghalang Pilipino's ongoing 'Mga Gerilya sa Powell Street' is an adaptation of his novel about Filipino WWII vets fighting their last battle, for equity rights, in the US

By Walter Ang
Contributor

Real stories

New battle

Another level







Classical singer plays Ninoy in 'Cory' musical

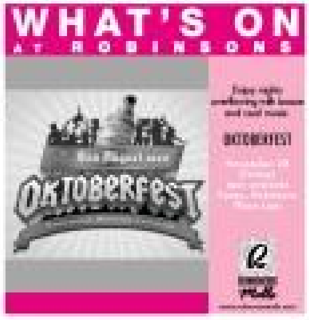


LIFESTYLE Arts&Books



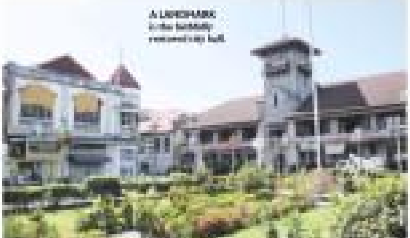


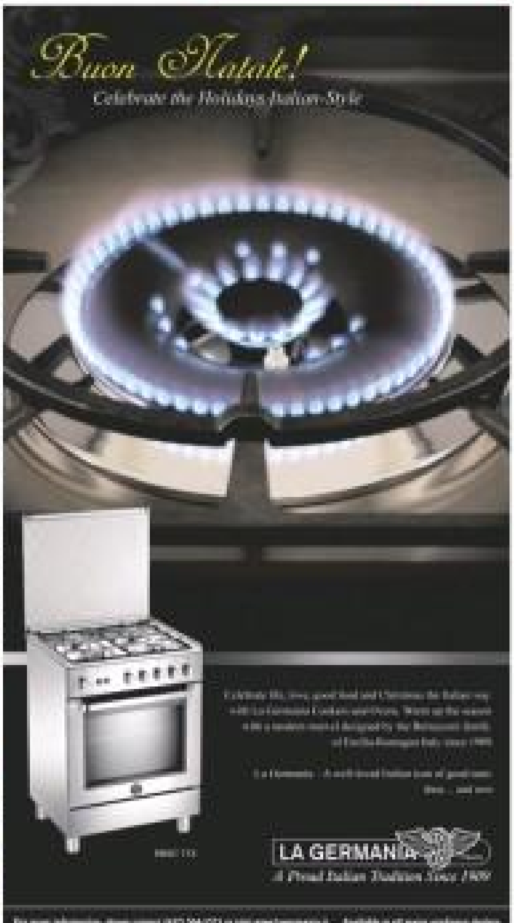
A cultural melting pot better than Zamboanga probably does not exist anywhere else in the Philippines



Asia's Latin City

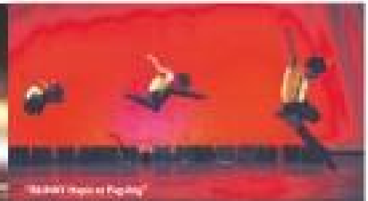
PRIDE OF PLACE


A LANDMARK is the faithfully restored city hall.









Powerdance tours 'Panalangin'



DOUGLAS Nierras (inset) and Powerdance

Partner

Profundity

Pinoy psyche

Top ballet companies' notable follow-throughs





CARISSA Adea and Angel Gabriel in BP's "The Hurt We Embrace"

Passage

Fresh start

Delightful

Asia's Latin City

Architectural gems



DOORS open out into the wide breezeways of the newly restored Gabaldon-type public school built in early 20th century



Kenneth Cobonpue curates art mag

Julie Lluch's 'Yuta': A retrospective



Pottery as pure art

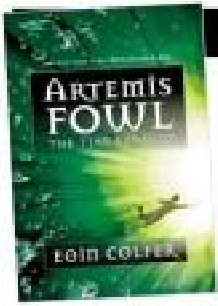
Act of rebellion

Women of mystery





A 'Time' most Fowl



Loyal followers of teenage genius Artemis Fowl are rewarded with a satisfying complex caper in 'The Time Paradox'

By Ruel S. De Vera

IN MANY WAYS, IT IS ARTEMIS Fowl, more than any other series, than has suffered in the shadow of Harry Potter. Though the characters' first books came out years apart ("Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone" in 1998 and "Artemis Fowl" in 2001), the phenomenal wave of interest in J.K. Rowling's boy wizard obscured the cleverness of Irish author Eoin Colfer's teenage mastermind for years to come, resulting in a similar number in books (Potter: 7, Fowl: 6) but a mismatch in terms of movies (Potter: 5+, Fowl: 0) with less worthy young adult properties brought to the big screen instead ("Eragon," anybody?).



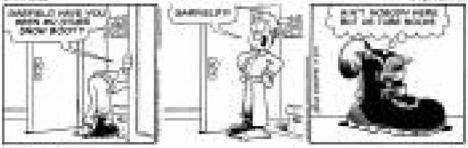
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In the sixth book, "Artemis Fowl: The Time Paradox" (Hyperion Books for Children, New York, 2008, [illegible] pages), [illegible]

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GARFIELD



A. LIPIN



PUGAD BABOY



DICK TRACY



LOVESHOTS



JAMES BOND



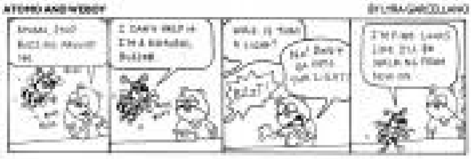
DIVINE COMEDY



BABY BLUES



ATOMO AND WEBBY



TULDOK



BIKO MACHINE

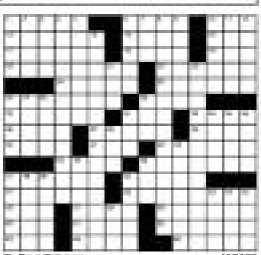


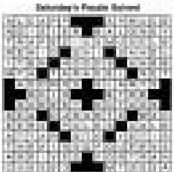
BEN



DAILY CROSSWORD

THE Daily Crossword





HOROSCOPE

CONCEPTIS SU DOKU

Conceptis Sudoku

	2			4		8		3
	4	8				6	9	
9			8	2				7
	6		2					
8			7		3			5
					8		3	
4				7	6			1
	5	2				7	4	
7		9		5			8	

Difficulty Level: ★

HOW TO PLAY SU DOKU

Answer to previous puzzle

27th National Book Award winners

THE ATENEO DE MANILA UNIVERSITY Press won top honors as Publisher of the Year at the 27th National Book Awards, given by the Manila Critics Circle and the National Book Development Board, and sponsored by the National Commission for Culture and the Arts, Yuchengco Museum, Manila Bulletin, Gabriela Joaquin, Fuji Xerox and Bayan Mag Ruiz, at ceremonies held at the Yuchengco Museum on Nov. 18.

Inquirer columnists Conrado de Quiros and Fr. Joaquin Bernas, SJ, won Book Awards, as did Lifestyle subsection editor Lincoln Zaldarriaga.

De Quiros won the Best Book of Essay for "Tongues on Fire," Bernas won the Best Book of Law for "A Living Constitution: The Troubled Arroyo Presidency." Zaldarriaga edited and co-authored "The Saga of La Naval: Triumph of a People's Faith," which won the Best Book of History.

Among the writers who won awards for their books published in the Philippines in 2007, were Sen. Edgardo J. Angara, former Senator Juan Flavier, Carmen Guerrero Nakpil and Tony Perez.

The Juan C. Laya Prize of P30,000 for Best Novel went to "Mga Gerilya sa Powell Street," by Benjamin Pimentel.

The Juan C. Laya Prize of P30,000 for Best Children's Fiction went to "The Boy Who Touched Heaven / Ang Batang Humipo sa Langit," by Iris Gem Li.

The Alfonso T. Ongpin Prize of P20,000 for Best Book on Art went to "Salvador F. Bernal: Designing the Stage," by Nicanor G. Tiongson.

Trophies designed by sculptor Glenn Cagandahan were given to the winners.

List of winners:

Anthology: "Cordillera in June: Essays Celebrating June Prill-Brett, Anthropologist," edited by B. P. Tapang (University of the Philippines Press); "Mga Piling Sulang Mindanao, Unang Aklat," edited by Arthur P. Casanova (University of Santo Tomas Publishing House).

Art & Best Designed Book: "Salvador F. Bernal: Designing the Stage," by Nicanor G. Tiongson, designed by Brian Tenorio (National Commission on Culture and the Arts).

Biography / Autobiography: "From Barrio to Senado: An Autobiography," by Juan M. Flavier; "Legends & Adventures," by Carmen Guerrero Nakpil (Circe Communications); "Mami Koloy Kaligtas: A Charmed Life," by Maximo Morales (Anvil Publishing Inc.).

Children's Literature: "The Boy Who Touched Heaven / Ang Batang Humipo sa Langit," by Iris Gem Li, translated by Roberto Añonuevo (Cacao and Adarna House).

Drama: "Bulong Pagninilay: Isang Trilohiya ng Mahabaang Dula," by Tony Perez (UST Publishing House).

Essay / Creative Nonfiction: "Pagsasanod-sanod at Pagsasalok ng Sinasang Nagpapasiglo sa Pilosopo; Mga Piling Sanaysay," by J. I. E. Teodoro (Ateneo Ipinamaya); "Tongues on Fire," by Conrado de Quiros (Anvil).

Fiction: "Mga Gerilya sa Powell Street," by Benjamin Pimentel (Adarna Press).

History: "Bolsanan sa Pahilakaka at Magbabagong Kasaysayan Pilipinas: Kasaysayan ng Publikong Paaralan sa Pilipinas, 1899-1970," by Paul C. Navarro (Adarna Press); "The Saga of La Naval: Triumph of a People's Faith," edited by Lito B. Zulueta (Dominican Province of the Philippines).

Journalism: "The Rulemakers: How the Wealthy and Well-Born Dominate Congress," by Sheila S. Coronel, Yvonne T. Chua, Luz Rimban and Booma B. Cruz (Anvil).

Law: "A Living Constitution: The Troubled Arroyo Presidency," by Joaquin G. Bernas, SJ (Anvil Press).

Literary Criticism: "Mga Kathang Tungo sa Mapagpalayang Pagbabasa: Pag-aaral at Pagtuturo ng Panitikan," by Rolando B. Tolentino (Anvil Press).

Medicine: "Buhay Tagisan ng Pilipinas: A Collection of 97th Great from the University of the Philippines Philippine General Hospital," by Edward H. M. Wang and Ariel Vergel de Dios (Bookmark).

Poetry: "Kabil-Pagpag ada Batang Pandanbasik sa Iskol ada Inglis / Anticipation and Other Poems in Iskol and English," by Victor Dennis T. Nierva, translated by Marne L. Kilates and H. Francisco V. Peñones Jr. (Goldpoint); "Mostly in Monsoon Weather: Poems New & Revisited," by Marne L. Kilates (UP Press); "Passage: Poems, 1983-2006," by Edgar B. Maranan (Bookmark).

Science: "Living with Nature in Our Times," by Alberto V. Reyes (UST).

Social Sciences: "Colonial Pathologies: American Tropical Medicine, Race and Hygiene in the Philippines," by Warwick Anderson (Ateneo Press); "The Dynamics of Regional Development: The Philippines in East Asia," edited by Arsenio M. Balisacan and Hal Hill (Ateneo Press).

Theology & Religion: "Inventing a Miracle: El Nazareno and the Transformation of Popular Catholicism in the Philippines," by Katharine L. Wiegele (Ateneo Press).

Translation: "Lipitig Is Hinayang," translated by Joaquin Ar from "Kinayang Pandugi," by Bal Ros (UP Press).

Travel: "Baler, Aurora," by Edgardo J. Angara, Jose Y. Pesdilla, Domingo Madulid, Jose Maria A. Cariño, Xavier Bofarro, Enrique Quezon Avancena, Manuel L. Quezon III, Sixto de T. Jose and Juan Edgardo M. Angara (Rural Empowerment Assistance and Development Foundation).

Publisher of the Year: Ateneo de Manila University Press.

A citation was given to "Vocabulary of the Kapampangan Language in Spanish and Dictionary of the Spanish Language in Kapampangan," translated by Venancio Q. Samson from "Vocabulario de Pampango en Romance, y Diccionario de Romance en Pampango" (1732), by Diego Bergaño (Holy Angel University Press).

Readings of winning works were rendered by Clim-Dim Gutierrez, Marisol Luis Pengilinan and Christine Noveda Bellen.

Musical numbers were contributed by Velvet Mood.

The finalists were chosen by various professional organizations and academic institutions. The winners were chosen jointly by the Manila Critics Circle and the National Book Development Board.

A 'Time' most Fowl

From page F1

Unsure complications ensue.

"The Time Paradox" then gets even more wicked, as a conspiracy years in the making comes to fruition, a disguised villain emerges, and the most nerve-wracking Fowl escape attempt thus far swiftly follows.

The bizarre thing is that it all makes sense. Colfer also directs left from earlier books, even as he resurrects an entirely new plot, doing, it has to be noted, mostly familiar characters, an achievement to recall.

Longtime readers of the Fowl books will be rewarded here, as "The Time Paradox" uses details from the five previous Fowl novels, giving them an even chance of figuring out exactly who the real villain is. Colfer even takes the time to explain some previously unexplained details, some dated all the way back to the first book.

That same element is the only relative disadvantage to "The Time Paradox." Readers who have, in fact, not read all the five Fowl books will simply get lost because of just how much of the book's constantly correcting narrative relies on prior Fowl knowledge.

It is, however, delightfully bracing to see Fowl from Book 1 match wits with Fowl from Book 6, demonstrating just how much that character has evolved seamlessly through Colfer's writing. Colfer, in effect, is leaving it up to the reader to decide which version they like better, letting Artemis simply be Artemis.

What's not left up to chance is the satisfying effect derived from reading Colfer's most complex and, yes, best book so far. Full of full-throttle action and tangled twists, "Artemis Fowl: The Time Paradox" shows that Eoin Colfer's brilliant teenager has a lot more tricks left up his jacket sleeve and, judging by the end of this book, a lot more over-selling reading awaiting us.

Available in hardcover from National Book Store.



Mojares, Fr. De la Rosa lead 51st Philippine PEN writers' congress



LITERARY with Elmer Ordoñez and National Artist Bienvenido Lumbera

THE PHILIPPINE CENTER OF THE International PEN (Poets and Playwrights, Essayists, Novelists) will hold its 51st congress on Dec. 6, at the Bulwagang Panitikang Ningning ng Sining of the Cultural Center of the Philippines. Theme of the congress is "Literature Since Then: the Sea Changes in the Literary Canon."

Keynote speaker is Resil Mojares. He will be introduced by Cebu-based writer Erma Cuizon.

To deliver the annual José Rizal Lecture is University of Santo Tomas Rector Magnificus and former Commission on Higher Education chair Fr. Rolando V. de la Rosa, O.P. He will be introduced by dramatist-historian Jose Victor Torres.

To lead the reading of the PEN Charter is Susy Tan. CCP president Nes Jardin will give special remarks.



NATIONAL Artist F. Sionil José



UST RECTOR Fr. Rolando de la Rosa

Literary sessions:

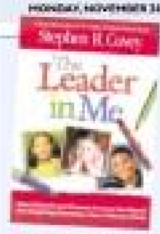
- "Struggle/People's Literature" (Rolando Tolentino, Mila Aguilar, Gelacio Guillermo, Domingo Landicho, Rosario Cruz Lucero, Jun Cruz Reyes, Ana ... Alexander Martin Remollino and Romulo Villanueva)
- "Gender Issues in Literature" (Shirley Lua, Ronald Baytan, Karina Bolasco, Neil Garcia, Thelma B. Kintanar and Jessica Zafra)
- "Critical Issues/Special Topics" (PEN chair Elmer A. Ordoñez, Ma. Lourdes Jacob, National Artist Bienvenido Lumbera, Charlson Ong and Ma. Luisa Reyes Chen)

The plenary session will be presided by National Artist and Philippine PEN national secretary F. Sionil José.

Congress convenors are Lito Zulueta, Marjorie Evasco, Shirley Lua and Ordoñez.

Two new PEN anthologies published by the UST Publishing House will be launched during the congress—an anthology of dramatic works and an anthology of poetry, fiction and essay by the PEN's more senior members.

Call 5233870, 5233836. E-mail philippinepen@yahoo.com.



Sean and Stephen Covey book blowout

THE BEST-SELLING MOTIVATIONAL books by authors Sean and Stephen Covey such as "The 7 Habits of Highly Effective People" and "The 8th Habit" can now be yours for a fraction of the cost—as much as 20% off at National Book Store.



As a bonus, every purchase of "The Leader in Me," "6 Most Important Decisions for Teens" and "7 Habits of Happy Kids" will earn you a free P50 National Book Store gift certificate. Get a raffle coupon to get the chance to be one of three lucky winners nationwide of a Sony PS3 Nintendo Wii, and NEO Explorer S2 laptop.

Promo runs until Nov. 30.





JAY-ANN Bandiola is 'Pinoy Idol' 2008 first runner-up.

John Robert Powers grads win in beauty, modeling contests

FOUR GRADUATES OF JOHN ROBERT Powers (JRP) have been winning in beauty pageants, modeling and singing competitions.

Carl Crystle de los Reyes won second runner-up in the Ms Cosmo Girl in the 2008 International Cinderella Pageant in Las Vegas. She also won a gold medal in the Best Long Gown and Best in Casual Attire, silver medal in Talent Category and bronze medal in Sexy Wear.



ROXANNE Bellin, one of Pulmoline Circle of 10 winners

Nikka Crystel was proclaimed Miss Teen Princess of Southeast Asia 2008 in Singapore, as well as Best in Interview and Director's Choice.

Jay-Ann Bandiola is 1st runner-up in 'Pinoy Idol' 2008. Roxanne Bellin is one of the Pulmoline Circle of 10 winners 2008 and Miss Philippines for the Miss Teen University 2008 in Seoul, Korea.

Michelle Engaño landed on the Top Five winners of Bodyshock 2008.

John Robert Powers holds personality-development courses that shape students into confident, pleasing personalities. JRP executive director Marixie Padilla-Canals says: "John Robert Powers train people to be winners for a lifetime."



MICHELLE Engaño, one of the Top 5 in Body Shock 2008; at right, Carl Crystle de los Reyes, is 2nd runner-up in Ms Cosmo Girl

Entertainment

'Spider-Man' expecting second baby

Did You Know...

Rudy's son makes his mark



Cinemalaya '09 bares semi-finalists

More challenging lineup



Rudy's son makes his mark



AT THE CINEMAS

Cinema	Showing
GLORIETTA 1	1 MONSTER SLAYER; 2 JAMES BOND 007 QUANTUM OF SOLACE; 3 MADAGASCAR ESCAPE 2 AFRICA; 4 ONE TRUE LOVE
GLORIETTA 4	1 MADAGASCAR ESCAPE 2 AFRICA; 2 JAMES BOND 007 QUANTUM OF SOLACE; 3 BURN AFTER READING; 4 CONCERTO; 5 PASSENGERS; 6 ONE TRUE LOVE; 7 SEX DRIVE
GREENBELT 1	1 ONE TRUE LOVE; 2 BURN AFTER READING
GREENBELT 3	1 JAMES BOND 007 QUANTUM OF SOLACE; 2 BURN AFTER READING; 3 SEX DRIVE; 4 MONSTER SLAYER; 5 MADAGASCAR ESCAPE 2 AFRICA
ALABANG TOWN CENTER	1 BURN AFTER READING; 2 ONE TRUE LOVE; 3 JAMES BOND 007 QUANTUM OF SOLACE; 4 MADAGASCAR ESCAPE 2 AFRICA; 5 SEX DRIVE
AYALA CENTER CEBU	1 ONE TRUE LOVE; 2 JAMES BOND 007 QUANTUM OF SOLACE; 3 MADAGASCAR ESCAPE 2 AFRICA; 4 THE WOMEN
MARKET! MARKET!	1 ONE TRUE LOVE; 2 JAMES BOND 007 QUANTUM OF SOLACE; 3 MADAGASCAR ESCAPE 2 AFRICA; 4 MONSTER SLAYER; 5 BURN AFTER READING
TRINOMA	1 ONE TRUE LOVE; 2 MADAGASCAR ESCAPE 2 AFRICA; 3 JAMES BOND 007 QUANTUM OF SOLACE; 4 MADAGASCAR ESCAPE 2 AFRICA; 5 SEX DRIVE; 6 MONSTER SLAYER; 7 BURN AFTER READING

AT THE MALLS

Mall	Event
Glorietta	[illegible]
Greenbelt	[illegible]
Alabang Town Center	[illegible]
Ayala Center Cebu	[illegible]
Market! Market!	[illegible]
Cinemalls	[illegible]
Ayala Museum	[illegible]
TriNoma	[illegible]





Pop-gospel group in Manila

[illegible]



15th NU Rock Awards

[illegible]

SHOW TIME

Mabuhay Singers turn 50

[illegible]

Choral tilts

[illegible]

Nov. 29

[illegible]



Joel Lamangan. . .

From page G4

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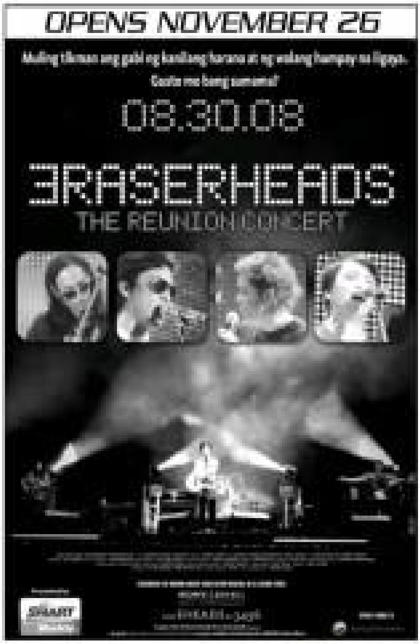




Joel Lamangan goes digital

Film vet uses P2 camera in new movie





A different tune

Advocacies









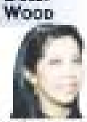
ENTERTAINMENT





That's what friends are for

Dolly Wood



Dolly Anne Carvajal

[illegible]

Big switch

[illegible]

Lavish bash

[illegible]



Cheer Factor

Play like Elton John

[illegible]

That's what friends are for

From page H1

[illegible]

Like a brother

[illegible]

'Shanghai honeymoon'

[illegible]

Star-white glow

[illegible]

Eraserheads the movie

[illegible]

Meralco Continues Maliwanag ang Pasko Campaign of HopeProgram Together with Marikina and Pasay





[illegible]



SM 50 MILLIONAIRES COUNTDOWN



40 Milionaires 10 more to go!

SM Advantage, SM Prestige and BDO Rewards cardholders who shop now through December 15 at SM Department Store, SM Supermarket, Savemore, SM Hypermarket, and other participating SM retail stores still have the chance to be among the 50 SM Millionaires.

Every P1,000 single-receipt purchase entitles shoppers to join the weekly electronic raffle draw.

Schedule of remaining draws

- Wed. Nov. 26 — 2 WINNERS
- Wed. Dec. 3 — 2 WINNERS
- Wed. Dec. 10 — 2 WINNERS
- Wed. Dec. 17 — 4 WINNERS

Exclusive 50c rebate from Petron

A minimum P1,000 single-receipt purchase until December 15 at SM Department Store or any SM retail affiliate entitles an SM Advantage, SM Prestige or BDO Rewards member to a Petron Rebate Voucher which he can use to enjoy 50 centavo rebate for every P50 gas up, for a maximum of 50 liters. The rebate voucher is valid until February 15.



Earning reward points at makro

SM Advantage, SM Prestige and BDO Rewards cardholders can now earn points everytime they shop at Makro. The superstore's 15 branches nationwide offers the widest selection of more than 20,000 items at the lowest wholesale prices.

Contact us at SM Advantage Hotline (632) 833-8888 (for Metro Manila), 1800-1888-SMAC (for areas outside Metro Manila) or visit our website at www.sm-advantage.com

SM Advantage continues to broaden rewards portfolio

With close to 5 million members, SM Advantage is the country's biggest customer loyalty program.



SM Advantage members earn points for every purchase at SM Department Store, SM Supermarket, SM Hypermarket and other SM retail affiliates.

Members may also earn points in Petron, Taal Vista Hotel and Asia Pacific College.

Members enjoy exciting benefits and privileges:

- SMAC Treats offer members with exciting perks & freebies they can share with family and friends. Just present SM Advantage, SM Prestige or BDO Rewards Card at participating establishments both inside and outside SM Malls.
- members enjoy seasonal exclusive discounts and bonus points in selected SM retail affiliates.
- attractive freebies and exclusive privileges, courtesy of a growing list of retail and leisure partners.

How to be an SM Prestige member

SM Advantage members who reach the required P300,000 purchase within two years are qualified for membership.

In addition to the benefits enjoyed as an SM Advantage cardholder, an SM Prestige member is extended with premium shopping and elite lifestyle privileges that include:

- valet shopping in SM Department Store.
- priority check-out lanes in SM Department Store, SM Supermarket and SM Hypermarket.



- exclusive access to facilities and amenities of the SM Prestige Lounge in SM Makati and SM Megamall.
- invitations to exclusive sale previews and seasonal promo events.
- lifestyle perks courtesy of partner restaurants, specialty shops, health & fitness establishments, hotels and resorts

LEARNING

Editor: Chito Banal-Formoso

October winner in the IE Lesson Plan Contest / I3

Is it a book? Is it a card? Is it a game? I4



SANTA'S SCOUTS

With Christmas just around the corner, the Jolly Bee Scouts are now out to collect old toys and books from classmates and friends for donation to Jollibee's Maligayang Pasko children beneficiaries. Over a hundred students have signed up nationwide to be Jolly Bee Scouts. They came from Andres Bonifacio High School, Benedictine Int'l School, Moore Field Academy, Colegio de San Agustin, De La Salle Greenhills, Escuela de Santa Rosario, Escuela de San Lorenzo Ruiz, Gift of Advanced Learning Montessori, Holy Word Academy, Miriam College, Holy Family Parochial School, Int'l Christian Academy, John Shannon Montessori Etc, Lourdes School of QC, Marymount School, Mary Jesus House of Studies, St. Cyr Academy, Tabernacle of Faith Christian Academy, La Inmaculada Concepcion and Liberty Baptist Academy, Arellano University, College of Immaculate Concepcion of Nueva Ecija, University of San Carlos, Elizabeth Seton of Cavite and Lipa City Colleges.

Mentoring the mentors

Teachers fill up on learning

FOR THREE STRAIGHT DAYS close to 300 Filipino teachers fueled up on learning and hope in the recent 4th Petron Gurong Kaakbay Conference held at the Ateneo de Manila University.

They came from public elementary schools where non-profit literacy-focused foundation Sa Aklat Sisikat runs its reading program.

Petron Foundation Inc., through SAS Foundation, has been sponsoring the PGKC for four years now in support of its holistic antipoverty program called Tulong Hirap (Helping Filipino Children and Youth Overcome Poverty through Education).

When it started in 2005, the conference had only 87 participants from the National Capital Region. This year, Dr. Celeste Gonzales, chair of the Education Department of conference host Ateneo de Manila University, welcomed a group five times bigger, from 11 regions of the country.

Well-known personalities who gave inspiring and informative talks to the participants included Dr. Antonio Torralba of the University of Asia & the Pacific, historian and Inquirer columnist Ambeth R. Ocampo, TV personality Rey Bautista, broadcast journalist Karen Davila and Philippine Mr. Fitness team members Noelle Wenceslao, Carina Bayandon and Janet Belarmino.

The conference also introduced new and alternative teaching methods, as well as research findings.

In a session on "Learning with the Inquirer," Chito Banal-Formoso, editor of the Inquirer's Learning section, encouraged teachers to use the newspaper as a tool for teaching various subjects to cope with the dearth of learning resources.

Reading education expert Dina Ocampo shared her research findings on reading comprehension which showed that children would understand a story or material more if "we let them have fun with it first."

The three-day live-in conference also offered 10 workshop sessions on lesson styling, effective storytelling techniques, classroom management, making classroom materials, and handling a multi-level reading class, as well as spotting a child with special needs, teaching campus journalism, and learning to Sabaw dance.

Participants got to exchange successful teaching strategies, tips on creating innovative teaching materials, how they made professional progress and managed difficult peer relationships.

Other workshop sessions were led by the Jardinains, Nora Montemayor, Cheni Delgado and the Center for Aesthetic Studies.

Organizers expect the nearly 300 Petron Gurong Kaakbay teachers to "turn their skills" by cascading the lessons and strategies they learned to their fellow teachers and in their respective schools and communities.

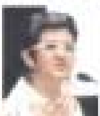
"After the conference, the teachers returned to their schools with new competencies and greater confidence to apply what they have learned and promote the love and habit of reading in their schools," said Sa Aklat Sisikat executive director Cely Lucbadan.



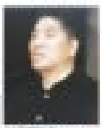
KAREN Davila



ANTONIO Torralba



DINA Ocampo



AMBETH Ocampo



MAKING books is one of 11 workshops for public school teachers.

UST symposium on financial crash

[illegible]

Fatima's Antipolo campus opens

[illegible]



FOUA new building in the new Antipolo campus



ALL PART of a staff development program, San Beda conducted an English proficiency class for non-teaching employees.

San Beda's English program for non-teaching staff

[illegible]

CEU's 'Lakbay-Aral' series launched

[illegible]

Calabarzon college's scholarship program

[illegible]

UP awards Centennial contest winners

[illegible]

14 law schools join moot court competition

[illegible]

Lyceum Batangas' president gets award



Laurel

[illegible]

Lyceum grad tops criminology exam

[illegible]

Emotional coaching seminar at UA&P

[illegible]

St. Paul Pasig to honor silver jubilarians

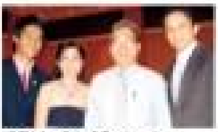
[illegible]

Letran students win mass media awards

[illegible]

UE Caloocan gets high marks in licensure test

[illegible]



UE CFA dean Cellen B. Santiago with new licensed interior designers (L-R) Mark A. Larozo, Melissa C. Garcia and Alexander C. Zamora

INQUIRER IN EDUCATION

IIE LESSON PLAN CONTEST OCTOBER WINNER

Be not afraid

A lesson plan using obituaries

[illegible]



Objectives

[illegible]

Materials

[illegible]

Procedure

[illegible]

Lesson proper

[illegible]



'Mama went to Heaven'

[illegible]

Enrichment activities

[illegible]

CHART OF HATS	
Yellow hat	[illegible]
Green hat	[illegible]
Red hat	[illegible]
Black hat	[illegible]
White hat	[illegible]
Blue Hat	[illegible]

■ Engagement Activity No. 1 -K-W-L Technique

[illegible]

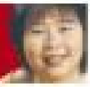
K	W	L
What I Know	What I Want To Know	What I Learned

■ Engagement Activity No. 2 -P-M-I Chart

P	M	I
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]

[illegible]

EUREKA! Queena N. Lee-Chua



'The 39 Clues' media convergence



Learn history

Wholesome fun

Making chemistry fun for kids

